

09/556,647

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 15 – 20, 22, and 31-38 and 40-49 are pending in the application. Claims 1-14, 21, 23-30, 39 and 50 are cancelled.

The Examiner has rejected claims 40-49 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,341,271 to Salvo et al. (hereinafter “Salvo”) or U.S. Patent 5,940,807 to Purcell (hereinafter “Purcell”). The Examiner has objected to claim 50, stating that it would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base and any intervening claims. Finally, the Examiner has stated that claims 15-20, 22, and 31-38 are allowable.

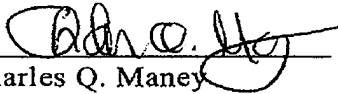
Applicant has amended claims 40 and 46, adding the limitations of claim 50 to each (*re.* “sorting said filtered list by unit cost of said raw materials”) in order to expedite allowance of the subject application and without prejudice to Applicant’s rights to the subject matter formerly contained therein. None of Salvo or Purcell teach, *inter alia*, sorting a filtered list of raw materials by unit cost. As such, claims 40 and 46, and their dependents, are allowable.

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Conclusions

In view of the foregoing, Applicant asks the Office to reconsider this Application and allow all of the claims. Please apply any charges that might be due, excepting the issue fee but including fees for extensions of time, to deposit account 14-0225.

Respectfully,


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